

Applicants: Lionel Vedrine
Serial No.: 10/520,981
Filing Date: August 29, 2005
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REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 5-7 are in the application. Through this Amendment, claim 8 has been incorporated into claim 1, and, accordingly, claim 8 has been cancelled. In addition, claim 7 has been amended.

In the Official Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings as failing to show various features specified in the claims. In particular, the Examiner referred to several means limitations. In response, these means limitations have been deleted from the claims. In addition, the Examiner asserted that the limitation of the "peripheral portion of the piston which is deflected into the blind hole" is not shown in the drawings. In response, and with reference to Figs. 6 and 7, the blind hole 51 is shown in an undeflected state in Fig. 6 and in a deflected state in Fig. 7. Reference is also made to p. 6, ll. 12-26 of Applicant's Specification which discusses this feature. It is respectfully submitted that the drawings are in accord with standard U.S. practice.

The Examiner objected to the Specification for allegedly failing to explicitly state what structure or device performs certain functions which were cited in conjunction with means limitations. The means limitations referred to by the Examiner have been deleted from the

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claims with the exception of the "spring means" found in claim 5. In response, the spring means corresponds to the spring 8 set forth in the Specification and shown in the drawings. It is respectfully submitted that the spring means is sufficiently described in the corresponding Specification.

The Examiner rejected claims 1 and 5-8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Barker et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,981,963) in view of Pfleger (U.S. Patent No. 4,929,230). In addition, at p. 7 of the office Action, the Examiner indicated that claim 8 includes patentable subject matter. In response, claim 8 has been incorporated into claim 1. In view of this Amendment, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 5-7, as amended, are in allowable form.

Favorable action is earnestly solicited. If there are any questions or if additional information is required, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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